

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA  
1991 SESSION

CHAPTER 201  
HOUSE BILL 774

AN ACT TO ALLOW THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF WATAUGA HOSPITAL,  
INCORPORATED, TO ENTER INTO SINGLE PRIME CONTRACTOR PUBLIC  
CONTRACTS.

Whereas, Watauga Hospital, Incorporated, seeks to construct capital improvements to the Watauga County Hospital, consisting of renovation of existing facilities and construction of new facilities; and

Whereas, the project to be constructed is of a complex nature and magnitude and involves reworking an existing ongoing hospital medical facility; consequently, specialty contractors are needed to address the special problems that evolve from reworking an existing ongoing medical facility as well as to tie in to the facility new construction that alters the complete scheme, layout, and design; and

Whereas, a single contractor is needed due to the potential severe weather in the area in which the construction will be done, and the resulting need for flexibility and coordination of various components and stages of construction; Now, therefore,

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

Section 1. G.S. 143-128(b) reads as rewritten:

"(b) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (a) of this section, the State, a county, municipality, department, board, commission, public hospital, or other public body, or an officer thereof may use the single-prime contract system and may prequalify bidders for all construction contracts.

~~If the public body chooses to use the single-prime contract system, it must also seek bids for the project under subsection (a) of this section and award the contract to the lowest responsible bidder or bidders for the total project.~~

For the single-prime contract system all bidders must identify on their bid the contractors they have selected for the subdivisions or branches of work for:

- (1) Heating, ventilating, and air conditioning;
- (2) Plumbing;
- (3) Electrical; and
- (4) General."

Sec. 2. (a) This act applies to Watauga Hospital, Incorporated, only and solely for the purposes of renovation of existing facilities and construction of new facilities at Watauga County Hospital.

(b) For the purposes of letting contracts for the construction of the project authorized in this act, Watauga Hospital, Incorporated, may prequalify contractors.

Sec. 3. The provisions of this act are severable and if any provision of this act is held to be invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, the invalidity shall not affect other provisions of the act which can be given effect without the invalid provision.

Sec. 4. This act is effective upon ratification, and expires July 1, 1992.

In the General Assembly read three times and ratified this the 3rd day of June, 1991.

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James C. Gardner  
President of the Senate

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Daniel Blue, Jr.  
Speaker of the House of Representatives